[Translation]

G.D.P.

659. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of G.D.P. growth of India, during 1996–97 and the G.D.P growth rate expected this year;

(b) whether the economic condition of India, particularly in industry, trade, export-import etc. has been deteriorating day by day inspite of the fact that there has not been any substantial decrease in the percentage of the G.D.P. growth;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the rate of savings last year and likely to be in the current year;

(e) the amount of foreign capital investment to be made this year, keeping in view that 42 billion dollar foreign capital investment was being made in China;

(f) whether agricultural production has been decreasing continuously; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) As per revised estimates released by CSO in July 1997 the GDP growth during 1996–97 was 6.8%. Estimate of GDP growth rate for 1997–98 is not yet available.

(b) and (c) Overall growth of industrial production during April to July, 1997 is 6.4% compared to 10% in April-July, 1996. As per DGCI&S data, exports in terms of U.S. dollars registered a growth rate of 4.2 per cent in April-September 1997 compared to 9.9 per cent in April-September, 1996, and imports recorded an increase of 7.6 per cent in April-September 1997 compared to 5.2 per cent in April-September 1996.

The deceleration in the industrial and exports growth was largely due to poor performance of some infrastructural sectors and lack of external demand caused by global recession.

(d) Estimates of savings rates for 1996–97 and current year are not yet available. However, rate of gross domestic savings as per cent of GDP at market price during 1995–96 was 25.6%.

(e) Inflows of foreign capital through foreign direct investment (FDI) and global depository receipts (GDR) had been $ 2159 million in April-August, 1997, and through foreign institutional investment (FII) had been $ 1307 million in April-September, 1997.

(f) and (g) The average annual growth rate in agriculture during he Eight Five Year Plan (1992–97) was 4.13 per cent which except for the Sixth plan period (1980–1985) growth rate of 6.2 per cent, exceeded the average growth rate achieved in all the preceding plan periods.

[English]

External Loans/Grants

660. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of external loans/grants received by the Government during the Seventh and Eighth Plan;

(b) the break-up of those loans/grants received by the State during the Seventh and Eighth plan; and

(c) the procedures adopted by the Centre to approve those loans/grants to States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The amount of external loans/grants received by the Government during the Seventh and Eight Plan is as under :

(Rs. crore)

	Loans	Grants	Total
Seventh Plan (1985–86 to 1989–90)	18998.88	2572.74	21571.62
Eighth Plan (1992–93 to 1996–97)	43451.84	4830.00	48281.84

(b) External loans and grants received by the Government of India are passed on to the States in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA). During the Seventh and Eighth Plan, the break-up of ACA released to the States is as under:

(Rs. crore)

	Loans	Grants	Total
Seventh Plan	2185.30	973.52	3158.82
Eighth Plan	13210.76	5941.03	19151.79

(c) The State Governments formulate the project proposals for foreign loans/grants and sent them to the Central Administrative Ministry for evaluation from technical and feasibility angle. The proposal is also examined by Planning Commission for resource availability within the plan outlay. After approval of the Central Administrative Ministry and the Planning commission, the proposal is sent to the department of Economic Affairs (DEA), which